

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15
OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 EURE-00
/116 W

-----092008Z 114330 /47

P R 091803Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 489
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

UNCLAS LONDON 2346

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ENRG UK
SUBJ: SECSTATE BENN ANNOUNCES CONDITIONAL AWARDS OF
FIFTH ROUND PRODUCTION LICENCES

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY PRESS
NOTICE (REF. NO. 57) OF FEBRUARY 9, 1977:

BEGIN QUOTE:

CONDITIONAL AWARDS OF FIFTH ROUND PRODUCTION
LICENCES ANNOUNCED
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MR. TONY BENN, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY, AN-
NOUNCED TODAY THE CONDITIONAL AWARDS OF OFFSHORE PETRO-
LEUM PRODUCTION LICENCES OFFERED UNDER THE FIFTH ROUND.

THE CONDITIONAL AWARDS COVER A TOTAL OF 44 OF THE
71 BLOCKS AND PART-BLOCKS OFFERED AND INVOLVE 65 COM-

PANIES ACTING INDIVIDUALLY OR IN GROUPS. THE 44 BLOCKS REPRESENT AROUND 9,000 SQ KMS IN THE NORTH SEA, IRISH SEA, CARDIGAN BAY, ENGLISH CHANNEL AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

THE LICENCES, CONDITIONAL UPON THE COMPANIES REACHING OPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE BRITISH NATIONAL OIL CORPORATION (BNOC) SATISFACTORY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY, WILL BE AWARDED UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS LAID DOWN IN THE PETROLEUM (PRODUCTION) REGULATIONS 1976. PROSPECTIVE CO-LICENSEES WILL ALSO HAVE TO AGREE A WORK PROGRAMME WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

THE BNOC WILL BE A 51 PERCENT PARTNER IN FIFTH ROUND LICENCES--ALTHOUGH WHERE LICENCE INTERESTS ARE HELD BY THE BRITISH GAS CORPORATION THESE WILL COUNT TOWARDS THE 51 PERCENT STATE SHARE.

END TEXT

2. EMBASSY COMMENT WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL. COMPLETE TEXT OF PRESS NOTICE REFERENCE NO. 57 INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS (THE CONDITIONAL AWARDS IN DETAIL; AN OUTLINE LETTER SENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS; NOTES TO EDITORS; A MAP SHOWING THE LOCATIONS OF FIFTH ROUND AWARDS) AND PRESS NOTICE REFERENCE NO. 61, "FIFTH ROUND AWARDS ANNOUNCED BY TONY BENN," WITH A COPY OF THE STATEMENT MADE BY BENN, WILL BE POUCHED ASAP.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, OFFSHORE DRILLING, LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON02346
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Drafter: n/a
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Litigation History:
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